

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03  
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 OMB-01  
IO-13 /081 W  
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R 041135Z JAN 77  
FM AMEMBASSY DOHA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2166  
INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI  
AMEMBASSY AMMAN  
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT  
AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS  
AMEMBASSY JIDDA  
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT  
AMEMBASSY MANAMA  
AMEMBASSY MUSCAT  
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

UNCLAS DOHA 0013

E.O. 11652: N/1-  
5-& : PFOR, QA, XF, PLO  
SUBJ: FATAH LEADER VISITS QATAR

SUMMARY: FATAH LEADER MAHMOUD ABBAS VISITED QATAR JAN 1-2.  
IN PRESS INTERVIEW HE LEFT DOOR OPEN FOR PALESTINIAN PARTICI-  
PATION IN GENEVA CONFERENCE, CLAIMED GOOD RELATIONS EXISTED WITH  
REJECTIONIST FRONT, WELCOMED RESTORED PLO-JORDAN AND PLO-SYRIA  
RELATIONS. ON RECOGNITION OF ISRAEL HE INSISTED THAT PALESTINIANS  
WANTED "INDEPENDENT NATIONAL AUTHORITY," AND REPEATED THE THREE  
NO'S OF KHARTOUM. END SUMMARY

1. MAHMOUD ABBAS (ABU MAZIN), FATAH CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEMBER,  
VISITED DOHA JAN 1-2. HE MET WITH AMIR, TO WHOM HE REPORTEDLY  
CONVEYED ORAL MESSAGE FROM ARAFAT, COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF THE  
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ARMED FORCES, AND MINISTER OF FINANCE AND PETROLEUM. ACCORDING  
PRESS, SUBJECT OF DISCUSSIONS WAS ACTIVITIES OF PLO IN BOTH  
ARAB AND INTERNATIONAL SPHERES AND CURRENT LEBANESE SITUATION.

2. IN INTERVIEW PUBLISHED JAN 2 IN QATARI DAILY "AL ARAB",  
ABBAS TOUCHED ON FOLLOWING SUBJECTS:

A. INTRA-PALESTINIAN RELATIONS: ABBAS SAID RELATIONS AMONG ALL RESISTANCE GROUPS WERE STRONG, INCLUDING THOSE BETWEEN PLO AND REJECTIONIST FRONT, SINCE THESE WERE BASED ON COMMON STRUGGLE FOR TOTAL LIBERATION OF OCCUPIED PALESTINE. SPECIFICALLY RE REJECTIONIST FRONT, HE DESCRIBED THIS AS CONSISTING OF POPULAR FRONT-GENERAL COMMAND AND ARAB FRONT. HE CLAIMED THAT POPULAR FRONT HAS "LEFT" THE REJECTIONIST LINE, BUT THAT REJECTIONIST FRONT STILL EXISTS AND PLO IS CONSTANTLY DEALING WITH IT. ACCORDING ABBAS, REJECTIONIST FRONT CONTAINS PALESTINIAN BROTHERS WHO CANNOT BE IGNORED AND ALL ELEMENTS MEET IN ONE COUNCIL WHERE THERE IS FREE AND DEMOCRATIC DISCUSSION. HE REITERATED THAT COMMON GOAL OF LIBERATION OF PALESTINE BINDS ALL PALESTINIANS TOGETHER.

B. PLO-JORDAN AND PLO-SYRIA RELATIONS: ABBAS WELCOMED "RESTORATION" OF PLO-JORDAN RELATIONS. HE NOTED THAT IN EVENT OF ESTABLISHMENT OF PALESTINIAN STATE, JORDAN WOULD BE "OUR ONLY EXIT" AND THUS PLO "CANNOT DO WITHOUT JORDAN." RE RELATIONS WITH SYRIA, HE ACKNOWLEDGED THEY HAD UNDERGONE CRITICAL STAGE DUE TO LEBANESE CRISIS, BUT THIS HAD PASSED AND RELATIONS NOW RETURNING TO "RIGHT COURSE". HE CLAIMED THAT PLO NOW WORKING ON PRIORITY BASIS TO RESTORE GOOD RELATIONS BETWEEN SYRIA AND LEBANESE PROGRESSIVE PARTIES.

C. GENEVA CONFERENCE: ABBAS STATED THAT 12TH SESSION OF PALESTINE NATIONAL COUNCIL NEITHER ACCEPTED NOR REJECTED GENEVA CONFERENCE CALLED WITHIN FRAMEWORK OF RESOLUTION 242, WHICH HE ALLEGED "DENIES LEGAL RIGHTS OF PALESTINIAN PEOPLE". HE CONTINUED THAT IF ANY CHANGE WERE INTRODUCED INTO "NATURE OF INVITATION TO CONFERENCE UNCLASSIFIED

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AND TO NATURE OF RESOLUTION 242," THEN THE WHOLE MATTER WILL BE LEFT FOR PALESTINE NATIONAL COUNCIL TO DECIDE. HE EXPLAINED THAT THIS MEANS THAT GENEVA NOT RPT NOT REJECTED IN PRINCIPLE, BUT WHAT REMAINS TO BE SEEN IS "WHETHER WE GO THERE AS A UNIFIED OR AS AN INDEPENDENT DELEGATION; HOWEVER, IF WE GO TO GENEVA PALESTINIAN DELEGATION SHOULD BE INDEPENDENT." HE CONTINUED: "IT IS LOGICAL THAT IF THERE IS GOING TO BE A GENEVA CONFERENCE THERE SHOULD BE A PALESTINE GOVERNMENT. WE WILL NOT LOSE ANYTHING IF WE GO TO GENEVA BECAUSE WE WILL NOT GIVE UP OUR GUNS AND I CAN ASSURE THAT THE GENEVA CONFERENCE WILL NOT CONVENE TOMORROW BECAUSE COUNTRIES CONCERNED WITH CONFERENCE, ESPECIALLY THE U.S., DO NOT RECOGNIZE THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE AND THEREFORE THIS REQUIRES A LONG TERM STRUGGLE."

D. RECOGNITION OF ISRAEL: ABBAS STATED "WE HAVE ENTERED THE UN AND SECURITY COUNCIL WITHOUT HAVING TO RECOGNIZE ISRAEL. WE WANT AN INDEPENDENT NATIONAL PALESTINIAN AUTHORITY WITH NO RECOGNITION OR RECONCILIATION OR SECURED BORDERS. I PERSONALLY, NOR ANY OTHER PERSON, HAVE NO RIGHT TO CHANGE THESE THREE

NO'S."

E. CHANGES IN FATAH AND PLO LEADERSHIP: THERE HAVE BEEN NO CHANGES UP TILL NOW AND ONLY FATAH CONFERENCE AND PALESTINE NATIONAL COUNCIL HAVE RIGHT TO MAKE SUCH CHANGES.

F. PLA WITHDRAWAL FROM LEBANON: ABBAS STATED THAT THE "UM GALOUT" BATTALION WHICH CAME FROM EGYPT WILL GO BACK TO ITS FORMER LOCATION, BUT REST OF PLA WILL REMAIN IN PRESENT LOCATIONS.

G. INTERNAL ISRAELI POLITICS: ABBAS CLAIMED THAT CURRENT ISRAELI GOVERNMENT CRISIS NOT POLITICAL BUT SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL DUE TO RAMADAN WAR AND PALESTINIAN STRUGGLE. HE PREDICTED CHANGE IN ISRAELI POLITICAL PARTY STRUCTURE.  
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## Message Attributes

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**TAGS:** PFOR, PINS, QA, XF, FATAH, PLO, (ABBAS, MAHMOUD)  
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**Review Markings:**  
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